

March/April 2006

Women's History Month &





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This Focus highlights issues dealing with Women and the Environment in celebration of both Women's History Month in March and Earth Day in April.

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I. U.S. POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

0663

Department of States Begins Issuance of an Electronic Passport. U.S. Department of State, February 17, 2006 http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2006/61538.htm

The Department of State is phasing-in the issuance of the new Electronic Passport (e-passport) to better facilitate international travel for U.S. citizens and enhance border security. On December 30, 2005, the Department began limited production of the first-ever U.S. e-passports. As part of a pilot program, the U.S. is now issuing diplomatic passports and soon official passports in electronic format.

0664

Fatah and Hamas: the New Palestinian Factional Reality. By Aaron D. Pina. CRS Report for Congress. March 3, 2006 http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/62834.pdf

For the first time in its history, the Palestinian parliament is set to be led by Hamas, which the United States and European Union have designated a foreign terrorist organization. Although some lauded the generally free and fair election in January 2006, others criticized the outcome and accused Hamas of "hijacking" democracy. This report provides an overview of the new political realities in the West Bank and Gaza after the election, the challenges Fatah and Hamas face, and possible implications for U.S. policy.

How Not to Make Peace: "Conflict Syndrome" and the Demise of the Oslo Accords. By Robert L. Rothstein. United States Institute of Peace (USIP). March, 2006. http://www.usip.org/pubs/peaceworks/pwks57.pdf

In assessing the reasons for the Oslo Accords' failure, the author, an international relations professor, writes that it is essential to understand the "conflict syndrome" that affects negotiating and decision-making processes. The author identifies various policy implications of persistent conflict syndrome.

0666

The New Age of Terrorism. By Brian Michael Jenkins. RAND Corporation, 2006 http://www.rand.org/pubs/reprints/2006/RAND RP1215.pdf

This paper considers how terrorism has changed over the past four decades. Terrorists are not monolithic, neither are they isolated. They innovate; exploit new technology; learn from one another; imitate successful tactics; produce manuals of instruction based on experience, debate tactics, targets, and limits on violence, and justify their actions with doctrines and theories.

Terrorist Financing: How The New Generation Of Jihadists Funds Itself. By Loretta Napoleoni, RUSI Journal, vol. 151, no. 1, February 2006, pp. 60-65 http://www.rusi.org/publications/journal/ref:P43F2107D84F07/

Napoleoni reviews the policies implemented to combat terrorist financing since 9/11 and argues that they are obsolete because the structure of terrorism financing is no longer transnational, but deeply rooted in individual countries. Failure of the international community to pursue a unified strategy resulted in lost opportunities and fractured anti-money laundering efforts, she says.

11. DEMOCRACY AND RULE OF LAW

0668

EGYPT.....Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2005. U.S. Department of State, March 8, 2006 http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/61687.htm

These reports describe the performance of 196 countries in putting into practice their international commitments on human rights. These basic rights, reflected in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, have been embraced by people of every culture and color, every background and belief, and constitute what President Bush calls the "non-negotiable demands of human dignity." This is Egypt's Human Rights' selection.

State Department to Release Annual Human Rights Report USINFO, Department of State, March 8, 2006.

English & Arabic

English: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=March&x=20060306120322maduobba0.7105 982&t=xarchives/xarchitem.html

Arabic: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-arabic&y=2006&m=March&x=20060308173850ssissirdile0.881603 4&t=livefeeds/wfab-latest.html (Arabic)

Articles in Arabic & English announcing the reports on Human Rights Practices for 2005.

0670

ENGAGING AUTOCRATIC ALLIES TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY. By David Adesnik and Michael McFaul Washington Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, Spring 2006, pp. 7-26 http://www.twq.com/06spring/docs/06spring_adesnik.pdf

The U.S. should improve its efforts to promote democracy abroad, especially under regime-change conditions and in autocratic allies such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Algeria and Pakistan, through diplomatic engagement, according to authors Adesnik and McFaul. NGOs lack the ability to confront regimes directly, but the U.S. government can challenge autocratic regimes through what Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has called transformational diplomacy.

Islamic Law Resource - Website

http://www.worldlii.org/catalog/2420.html

Provides resources for the study of Islamic law and modern Middle East legal systems very impressive series of resources, of interest to researchers.

III. U. S. SOCIETY AND VALUES

In Celebration of Women's History Month

0672

Bush Proclaims March 2006 Women's History Month.

USINFO, Department of State, March 2, 2006.

English & Arabic

English: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=March&x=20060302165423jmnamdeirf0.1857874&t=scv/lc-latest.html

Arabic: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-arabic&y=2006&m=March&x=20060302144138bsibhew0.5301477 &t=livefeeds/wfab-latest.html

Praising the achievements of women in fields from social reform to civil rights, in American communities from African American to the American Indian, President Bush proclaimed March 2006 Women's History Month. It calls on Americans to honor women's accomplishments and contributions throughout the years.

ELDIS Gateway to Development Information - Website

http://www.eldis.org/

A website with 18,096 online documents 4,500 organizations 15,000 email messages, Eldis is one of a family of knowledge services. Include among others, are Gender, Climate change, Biodiversity, Forestry, Food security health and Health systems, as well as manuals and toolkits.

0674

How Do I Love Thee. By Lori Gottleib. Atlantic Monthly, March 2006, pp. 58-70.

http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/prem/200603/online-love

The author, a single woman, interviews operators of online and personal matchmaking services and throws her name into the roster while doing so. Gottlieb notes that a new "science" of attraction is being developed by academic researchers and they are being used worldwide. It is still evolving, the author notes, and "it may well take a generation before we learn whether the psychological, anthropological, or sociological model works best". The author, however, was unable to find a suitable match.

0675

National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) - Website http://www.nwsa.org/

Links to scholarship information, job announcements and links to NWSA publications. NWSA has a vision of a world in which all persons can develop to their fullest potential and be free from all the ideologies and structures that consciously and unconsciously oppress and exploit some for the advantage of others.

"The Scholarship on Women in Islamic Societies"
From a study entitled "Women in Islamic societies a selection review of social scientific literature." By Priscilla Offenhauer.
The Federal Research Division, Library of Congress, November 2005. (pages 13-26)
http://www.loc.gov/rr/frd/pdf-files/Women Islamic Societies.pdf

Because the scholarly literature on Muslim women has grown voluminous in the past two decades, this study is necessarily selective in its coverage. It highlights major works and representative studies in each of several subject areas and alerts the reader to additional significant research in lengthy footnotes. The selected section covers Assessing Women's Status: categories of data, categories of scholarly work; specialized and microstudies; consolidation of knowledge about women in Islamic Societies, and representation of different regions, nations, and classes.

0677

Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams. USINFO, Department of State, February, 2006 http://www.nwhp.org/whm/2006/honorees.html

The 2006 Honorees represent women creating community and sustaining dreams in countless ways and in myriad venues. This year's theme, Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams, honors the spirit of possibility and hope set in motion by generations of women in their creation of communities and their encouragement of dreams. The theme honors women for bringing communities together and restoring hope in the face of impossible odds. Community comes in many forms, and dreams change, expand, and are sometimes fulfilled.

Women of Influence. USINFO, Department of State, February, 2006 http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/womeninfln/

"Women of Influence" a publication about 12 notable American women, paired to illustrate key developments in American history, from colonial times to the 20th century. It consists of six minichapters: "Guiding Lights to a New World", "The Colonial Era", "Birth of a Nation" "Breaking the Chains of Slavery", "A Woman's Right to Vote", and "A Role in Government".

This Web publication offers short historical backgrounders to introduce each pair, profiles for the 12 women, links, and lists for additional reading. The publication eventually will be expanded to include additional notable women from the United States and other countries.

0679

Women of Influence: A Conversation With Cokie Roberts. By Bruce Cole, Roberts Cokie. Humanities, vol. 27, no. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 6-9, 51-54 http://www.neh.gov/news/humanities/2006-01/contents.html.

Cole, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, talked with news analyst Cokie Roberts about her recent book, FOUNDING MOTHERS, and the importance of women in U.S. political history. Comparing the recent advances of women in politics with the role women played in the early days of the Republic, Roberts also discussed the difficulties of locating the original letters and manuscripts that formed the basis of the book. In a related article, "A Life in Letters: The Story of John and Abigail Adams," Maggie Riechers writes about the influence of Abigail Adams on her husband, President John Adams, throughout their fifty-year marriage.

Women's Studies AT UM: Resources - Website http://www.womensstudies.umd.edu/

The Website links to local information from the Women's Studies department at University of Maryland College Park.

0681

Women's Studies Database - Website

http://www.mith2.umd.edu/WomensStudies/

Information about conferences, employment, legislative issues, and syllabi from women's studies classes. The University of Maryland women's studies web site, begun in September 1992, serves those people interested in the women's studies profession and in general women's issues.

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#### 0682

## American Students Drawn to Mideast Studies through Music

Ensemble. By Stephen Kaufman. March 01, 2006.

English & Arabic

**English:** http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=March&x=20060301114009ESnamfuaK0.138 9429&t=livefeeds/wf-latest.html

**Arabic:** <a href="http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-arabic&y=2006&m=March&x=20060302142912bsibhew0.3070185">http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-arabic&y=2006&m=March&x=20060302142912bsibhew0.3070185</a> &t=livefeeds/wfab-latest.html

The audience in the DuPont Circle conference room easily could have imagined itself sitting in a concert hall in Lebanon or Egypt, listening to the sound of an Arab lute, or 'ud, playing a solo over a delicate orchestral drone and a dynamic rhythm. But, remarkably, the Arab music was being performed by young American college students from Virginia.

The Diversity of Muslims in the United States: Views as Americans. By Qamar-ul Huda, U.S. Institute of Peace, February 2006 <a href="http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr159.pdf">http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr159.pdf</a>

With the war against terrorism and an increased attention on the Muslim world, this report analyzes ways Muslims in the United States understand their roles as Americans in combating terrorism and their unique contributions toward conflict prevention and peacemaking.

#### 0684

Journalist Discusses How Blogs Shape the Media, Politics. USINFO, Department of State. March 26, 2006 <a href="http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/Archive/2006/Mar/28-197651.html">http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/Archive/2006/Mar/28-197651.html</a>

Journalist David Kline discussed the growing influence of blogs on politics and the news media during a March 20-24 rolling webchat. A transcript of this webchat is available on this site.

#### 0685

State of the News Media 2006: Annual Report on American Journalism. Project for Excellence in Journalism, 2006 http://journalism.org/executivesummary.pdf

Project for Excellence in Journalism's annual report tracking and analyzing the state of the American news media.

## Yale University Develops Online Arabic Library.

USINFO, Department of State, April 4, 2006.

English & Arabic

**English:** http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=April&x=20060404173417ndyblehs0.1197016&t=scv/lc-latest.html

**Arabic:** http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-arabic&y=2006&m=April&x=20060405155548bsibhew6.806582e-

02&t=livefeeds/wfab-latest.html

Library administrators at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, are cataloging Middle Eastern journals from libraries in the United States, Europe and the Middle East and converting Arabic-language texts to a digital storage medium in a project to create a virtual library of Middle Eastern culture.

#### IV. ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND TRADE

0687

Back to the Future for African Infrastructure Why State-Ownership is no More Promising the Second Time Around. John Nellis. The Center for Global Development, February 2006. <a href="http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/6352">http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/6352</a>

African state-owned enterprises (SOEs), particularly those in infrastructure, have a long history of poor performance. But moves in the 1990s to rely instead on private-sector participation and ownership have yet to deliver the hoped-for improvements. Is a return to SOEs the solution? This paper gives details.

#### Credit Markets, Creditors Rights and Economic Development.

By Kenneth W. Dam. The Law School of Chicago University, February 2006

http://www.law.uchicago.edu/Lawecon/WkngPprs\_251-300/281-kd-credit.pdf

According to the author, a law professor and Brookings Institution fellow, credit markets are just as important as equity markets to financial development. In most countries, far more finance is generated in credit markets than in public equity markets. He notes that even in the United States, which is usually thought of as the country with the most pronounced equity culture, far more money is raised in credit markets than in equity markets. Because banks play such a central role in the developing-world economies, the author says it is important to look at the special role of banks in those countries. The focus of his working paper is banks and the special problems that creditors -- not just banks but all creditors -- face when the borrower cannot pay or fails to pay. He examines the legal issues germane to creditors' rights and bankruptcy law.

#### 0689

The Economic Costs of the Iraq War: An Appraisal Three Years After the Beginning of the Conflict. By Linda Bilmes and Joseph Stiglitz. National Bureau of Economic Research, February 2006

http://papers.nber.org/papers/w12054.pdf

This paper attempts to provide a more complete reckoning of the costs of the Iraq War, using standard economic and accounting/budgetary frameworks. Using the Congressional Budget Office (CBO's) projection of maintaining troops in Iraq through 2015, the true costs may exceed \$2 trillion.

The cost is much larger than the administration's original estimate of \$50-\$60bn. The costs estimated do not include those borne by other countries, either directly (military expenditures) or indirectly (the increased price of oil). Most importantly, we have not included the costs to Iraq, either in terms of destruction of infrastructure or the loss of lives. These would all clearly raise the costs significantly.

#### 0690

**Financing Hope: Improving Microfinance**. By Noah Hertz-Bunzl. Harvard International Review, Winter 2006 <a href="http://hir.harvard.edu/symposia/55/">http://hir.harvard.edu/symposia/55/</a>

Hertz-Bunzl says microfinance has enjoyed a recent boom throughout Africa, but poor loan management and lack of critical innovation have limited its reach. Microfinance needs to improve in order to reach its potential to alleviate poverty, he states. For example, microfinance banks must operate in a sustainable manner, which means aligning interest rates with repayment rates to ensure they remain in the black -- and driving both of those rates in the right direction by insisting on collateral and following through by collecting from loan defaulters.

#### 0691

Organizations must adapt to global changes, U.S. official says. The United States is calling for continued "fundamental changes" for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, says Tim Adams, Under Secretary for International Affairs at the U.S. Treasury Department.

Adams spoke to the press March 1 in Tokyo, where he attended the G-20 Workshop on Reforming the Bretton Woods Institutions hosted by Japan's Ministry of Finance. Adams said that during his discussions with Japanese officials, it was agreed that "fundamental change is needed" for the IMF and World Bank to continue to adapt to changes in the global economic and financial system.

#### V- GLOBAL ISSUES & ENVIRONMENT

## In Celebration of Earth Day

0692

**Agenda for Climate Action.** Pew Center on Global Climate Change. February 2006.

http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/PCC%5FAgenda%5F2%2E08%2Epdf

In its report, the Pew Center develops and articulates a course of action for addressing climate change - which it terms "one of the most complex issues that the world will face in this century." It takes a comprehensive look at a suite of climate, energy, and technology policies that could provide meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas emissions throughout the economy. The Center recommends fifteen actions it believes the U.S. must take in the following areas: Science and technology research, Market-based emissions management, Emissions reductions in key sectors, Energy production and use, Adaptation, International engagement.

**Be worried. Be very worried. Earth at the tipping point.** By Jeffrey Kluger et al; Time, April 3, 2006, pp. 28-62 <a href="http://www.time.com/time/covers/0,16641,1101060403,00.html">http://www.time.com/time/covers/0,16641,1101060403,00.html</a>

In this cover-story special series of articles on global warming and climate change, TIME writers and photographers paint the most alarming picture to date of the changes taking place around the world. The authors note that "the debate is over -- global warming is upon us with a vengeance", writing that climatic disruptions are now feeding off one another; scientists, who have been warning about this for decades, now fear that we may have reached a point of no return. The authors explain how the planet has tipped into this crisis so quickly, and what can and is being done to mitigate the effects of global climate change.

#### 0694

# ECOLEX – A Gateway to Environmental Law – Website <a href="http://www.ecolex.org/index.php">http://www.ecolex.org/index.php</a>

ECOLEX is a global database providing the most comprehensive, source of information on environmental law in all areas of the world. Contains information on major national and international judicial decisions. Allows researchers to compare environmental laws by country.

#### 0695

## Environmental Information Resources - Website http://www.gwu.edu/~greenu/index2.html

Topical sections include US environmental resources (listed both by subject and by name), international environmental resources by country.

NASA Survey Confirms Climate Effect on Polar Ice Sheets. USINFO, Department of State, March 09, 2006 <a href="http://usinfo.state.gov/gi/Archive/2006/Mar/10-777019.html">http://usinfo.state.gov/gi/Archive/2006/Mar/10-777019.html</a>

In the most comprehensive survey ever undertaken of the massive ice sheets covering Greenland and Antarctica, NASA scientists confirm that climate warming is changing how much water remains locked in Earth's largest storehouses of ice and snow.

0697

# The National Environmental Health Association - Website <a href="http://www.neha.org/">http://www.neha.org/</a>

Established since 1937, the association serves all environmental Scientists in the field of health offering special continuing education and training courses.

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0698

International Cooperation Brings Success in War on Drugs: State Department Issues Annual Authoritative Report on Global Narcotics Trade. By Charlene Porter. USINFO, Department of State, March 1, 2006. English & Arabic

English: http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/Archive/2006/Mar/01-560663.html

Arabic: http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-arabic&y=2006&m=March&x=20060302164723BSibhew0.67722728t=livefeeds/wfab-latest.html (Arabic site)

Steadily increasing cooperation among nations led to "significant successes" in reducing international drug trafficking and criminal activity in 2005, the U.S. State Department declared in releasing the 2006 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (INCSR) March 1. Assistant Secretary of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Anne Patterson announced the findings at a State Department briefing. "The progress we can point to in this year's INCSR reflects the work of many countries to consolidate the gains against drugs and crime, with many brave people throughout the world taking great personal risk," she said.

0699

United Nations Predicts Bird Flu in the Americas Within a Year, Influenza Coordinator Nabarro urges high alert for veterinary services worldwide. By Judy Aita. USINFO, Department of State, March 09, 2006 http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=March&x=20060309110144ajatia0.2547876&t=gi/gi-latest.html

Bird flu is expected to cross the Atlantic Ocean and reach the Americas within a year, a senior U.N. official said March 8. Dr. David Nabarro, senior U.N. coordinator for avian and human influenza, said that given the flight patterns of wild birds that have been spreading avian influenza (bird flu) from Asia to Europe and Africa, birds infected with the H5N1 virus could reach the Americas within the next six to 12 months.

U.S. Health Secretary Says More Bird Flu Vaccines Coming. USINFO, Department of State, March 7, 2006 http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=March&x=20060307153527cmretrop0.15169 92&t=gi/gi-latest.html

U.S. Health agencies are continuing to develop vaccine alternatives that will protect against the evolving avian influenza virus, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Michael Leavitt said March 6. In 2005, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) successfully tested a vaccine that produced an immune response to one strain of the H5N1 virus that swept out of Southeast Asia, through Central Asia and into Europe and Africa.

كتب مترجمة إلى العربية



مستقبل الحرية: الديمقراطية غير الليبرالية في الوطن والخارج

تأليف : فريد زكريا

The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad

By Fareed Zakaria

يبين هذا الكتاب العلاقة بين الحرية و الديمقر اطية ووسائل استعادة التوازن بينهما وزيادتهما ، ويؤكد أن جو هر سياسات الديمقر اطية الليبر الية يتمثل في بناء نظام اجتماعي تعددي، غنى ومعقد، لا تهيمن عليه فكرة و احدة، ويوفر مرشدا" للتصدي لمشكلات العصر الحالي وأوضاعه، وفي هذا يعود الكتاب إلى تاريخ النضال من أجل الحرية والديمقر اطية، ويستدعى القوى و الاتجاهات السياسية العالمية في مثل هذا النضال، ويؤكد المؤلف أن الديمقر اطية غير المنظمة تقوض الحرية وحكم القانون. وفريد زكريا هو محرر نيوزويك إنترناشيونال، وصاحب عمود منتظم في الطبعة المحلية بهذه المجلة، ومحلل سياسي في إيه بي سي نيوز، وحاصل على الدكتوراه في الفلسفة.



عجلة قوق المدرسة القصة القصة الفائزة بوسام نيوبيرى

تأليف : مينديرت ديجونج

WHEEL ON THE SCHOOL

By Meindert dejong

لماذا لم تعد طيور اللقلق تأتى إلى قرية شورا الصغيرة لتبنى أعشاشها؟ كانت لينا – وهى أحدى تلاميذ المدرسة الستة – أول من طرح السؤال، ودفعت الآخرين إلى التساؤل بدور هم. أحيانا" عندما تبدأ في التساؤل، تبدأ في تحقيق أشياء، وهكذا انطلق الأطفال في رحلة لإعادة طيور اللقلق إلى القرية.

كان عليهم أن يتغلبوا على عقبات كثيرة، منها البحر الثائر وما يحمله من أخطار وتهديدات، ولكنهم لم يستسلموا، وسرعان ما أثرت قوة عزيمتهم وتصميمهم ورؤيتهم حماسة القرية بأسرها فدفعتها إلى العمل، إلى تحقق الحلم في نهاية المطاف.

Resources for Researchers

> ARABIC LANGUAGE EDITIONS OF ELECTRONIC JOURNALS

http://usinfo.state.gov/pub/ejournalusa/arabic.html

➤ ELDIS GATEWAY TO DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION....highly useful for NGOs http://www.eldis.org/

> FOREIGN PRESS CENTER
http://fpc.state.gov

➤ INTERFAITH RESOURCES – FROM THE CASE FOUNDATION: Covers Organizations and Academic Centers Related To Inter Religious Dialogue and Cooperation.

http://www.casefoundation.org/web/guest/spotlight/interfaith/resources

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http://www.lii.org

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http://infomine.ucr.edu